

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) The contacting part according to ~~claim 23~~ claim 24, characterized in that the ~~elips~~-tines have an L-shaped profile, said contact ends ~~of~~-forming an inner rim providing the electrical contact between the male contacting portion and the female contacting portion.

3. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, characterized in that the ~~resilient elips~~-tines have a determined length and longitudinally extend over said third cylindrical portion so that their free ends come into place in front of the aperture of the housing.

4. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, further comprising a protective sleeve, essentially of tubular shape, surrounding the contact ~~elips~~-clip and including an aperture allowing the passage of the male contacting portion, the protective sleeve being force-fitted and set on a ~~cylindrical span of~~ the body of the female contacting portion.

5. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 4, characterized in that the protective sleeve is force-fitted and set on the ~~annular crown~~ clip annular portion.

6. (previously presented) The contacting part according to claim 4, characterized in that the dimensions of the aperture of the protective sleeve are such that the protective sleeve aperture does not allow the introduction of a male contacting portion with a diameter larger than the diameter of the housing.

7. (original) The contacting part according to claim 4, characterized in that the inner dimensions of the protective sleeve are such that they provide sufficient clearance for the contact clip so as to receive the male contacting portion.

8. (original) The contacting part according to claim 4, characterized in that the protective sleeve allows the clearance of the contact clip to be limited to a maximum acceptable value.

9. (original) The contacting part according to claim 4, characterized in that the aperture of the protective sleeve has a shape allowing it to facilitate the introduction and guidance of the male contacting portion.

10. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, characterized in that the contact ends of the contacting tabs form ~~in an~~ inlet cone, the dimensions of which determine a certain number of fundamental features of the contacting ~~parts~~ part.

11. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, characterized in that the diameter of the

housing is defined relatively to the diameter of the male contacting portion in order to provide a sliding assembly, the male contact being guided into the housing.

12. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, characterized in that the clip annular crown portion is force-fitted and set onto the cylindrical ~~portion~~ span of the body of the female contacting portion.

13. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, wherein the body of the female contacting portion comprises windows on the third cylindrical portion for providing lateral access to the housing, the ~~resilient contact elips~~ clip having a determined length so that the ~~free contact ends~~ of the ~~resilient elips tines~~ are located behind the aperture of the housing, the ~~resilient elips longitudinally extending along an external surface of the third cylindrical portion located between the second cylindrical portion and~~ aligned with said windows, wherein said contact ends of the ~~resilient tabs providing~~ are allowed to the contact with the male contacting portion through said windows ~~provided in the third cylindrical portion and opening onto the housing.~~

14. (original) The contacting part according to claim 13, characterized in that an external protective sleeve, improving the tightening of the clip annular crown portion, ~~and thereby~~ protecting the resilient tabs tines from mechanical aggression, said protective sleeve may be being fixed onto the body of the female contacting portion.

15. (original) The contacting part according to claim 2, characterized in that the L-shape of the ~~resilient tabs~~ tines limits the risk of pulling out the contact clip.

16. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 24 ~~claim 23~~, characterized in that the contact clip and the body of the female contacting portion are made of different materials.

17. (original) The contacting part according to claim 3, characterized in that the contact clip is made of a high performance alloy combining resilient and conducting properties.

18. (original) The contacting part according to claim 16, characterized in that the body of the female contacting portion is made of a conventional conducting alloy.

19. (original) The contacting part according to claim 13, characterized in that the contact clip and the body of the female contacting portion are made of different materials.

20. (currently amended) The contacting part according to claim 13, characterized in that the contact clip is made of a high performance ~~alloy~~ alloy combining resilient and conducting properties.

21. (original) The contacting part according to claim 13, characterized in that the body of the female contacting portion is made of a conventional conducting alloy.

22. (currently amended) A connector, characterized in that it includes at least one contacting part according to ~~claim 23~~ claim 24.

23. (cancelled)

24. (new) A contacting part consisting of a male contacting portion (2) having a determined external diameter and of a female contacting portion, the female contacting portion comprising:

a body (1) having a longitudinal axis and a contacting end for receiving the male contacting portion (2), said body (1) further comprising:

a first cylindrical portion (13) extending axially toward the contacting end;

a cylindrical span (12), extending axially from the first cylindrical portion towards the contacting end, between said first cylindrical portion and a cavity defining housing (11), wherein said cavity defining housing (11) comprises a third cylindrical portion extending axially from said cylindrical span (12) towards the contacting end and defining an opening (10) into the cavity defining housing 11; and

a contact clip (3) fixed onto the cylindrical span (12) in electrical contact therewith, the contact clip (3) further comprising:

a clip annular portion (31) surrounding the cylindrical span (12), the annular portion of the clip constructed having at least two axially

extending tines, each of said tines terminating in a contacting tab (32), said tabs extending radially into the opening (10) and having a contact end (33) arranged so as to be interposed in the path of the male contacting element when it is inserted into the cavity defining housing (11), said contact ends (33) circumscribing an aperture (34) having an inner diameter smaller than the inner diameter of the cavity defining housing (11) and smaller than the external diameter of the male contacting portion (2), so that said contact ends (33) of the contacting tabs (32) achieve an electrical contact with the male contacting portion (2).